

1944

Carr, Tom. E. - 1944 (holograph)

MSRC Staff

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"G. C. 365 INC APD 92
to Bm. N.Y.C.
Dec. 23, 1944

The Secretary
Howard Univ.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

A few days ago, I was very pleasantly surprised with a very much welcomed copy of the Howard Univ. Bulletin, vol. XXIV #1. I cannot adequately express my appreciation in being so honored & so fortunate.

I have read & reread with increased interest all of its contents. And although many faces and many names are unfamiliar, the fact that they are "Howardites" stimulate a feeling a great pride within one's self to be counted among them.

As I read about about campus events such as "Easter Day", "May Day", "Talent Night", "Alumni Awards" etc., I recalled with happy recollection these same events a few years ago. Each year these historical events take on a broader significance, until which now have reached

II.

international importance.

There was a time when one could get a somewhat complete picture of Howard's importance simply by analyzing a yearly statistical report. To this one gave only a passing interest. But now Howard's spread over the globe engaged in every endeavor on home front & ^{was} front ^{may} exert an influence whose results ~~can~~ only be evaluated by future generations, whose philosophies of life will have been formed by association direct or indirect with the ~~sons~~ ^{wis} & brightness of Howard. It is not an ~~over~~statement or an exaggeration to say that the vast Alumni of Howard have done more to destroy prejudiced views, mistaken opinions, doubt and ignorance among people everywhere who have been misguided & misled, than the Alumni of any other University of its size & importance. And at the same time they have been and continue to be ambassadors of good will to peoples of every race, creed, color and nationality in every corner of the earth. Their importance in this respect is only exceeded by the universal good will and gracious welcome afforded them by citizens of other lands.

Because of this unique place which Howard holds among American Institutions of higher learning, it ceases to be just another University, but rather an Institution with ^{weighty} responsibilities in directing & redirecting international trends of thought.

Here in Italy in my forward C.P., which is never adequately sand bagged, I spend many precious moments in recollection of the days when I saw the "grass grow green". The grass grows green here also, but close at hand there is art. Heavy fire, not too many hundred yards away, the enemy works. I must stay in my fox hole until night, and even then I am not too eager to come out. I cannot recall a similar occurrence at Howard. How different the atmosphere in places where the grass grows green.

At present it is windy, cold, stormy and incidentally very mountainous where I am. But in the wind, braving the storm, warming up over some fire from the cold, and climbing some mountain, I renew acquaintances with Howard men who are in the vanguard.

Italy is a historical country, and although it has been hit severely - at present hard-pressed with abject poverty, - much of its initial grandeur magnificent and intangible remains.

Americans here are doing a great job both in the revitalization of a spirit of nationalism, and in the production of air forces, ~~of~~ political, and military. The people back home are supporting us with more than adequate means. And you can be sure that we are doing our part.

We shall return again soon, and we shall take up our task again in the vanguard of progress, to make tangible and real, and everlasting those principles & ideals for which we are now fighting.

Until we get back, we know you will carry on. I close with every sincere wish for the continued success and great achievements of those who wish us well on the "trip".

P.S. (over)

Wm. B. L. are
1st Lt. 3/5th INF
92nd Div.
T. Army.

I attended Howard during the years '36-'38,
I transferred to Drew University in Madison,
N.J. where I received my A.B. two years
later. However, I am truly as much a Howard
Alumnus as anyone. No one could love her
more than I.

At present I am executive officer and
1st in command of "G" Co 343rd which
is commanded by Capt Robert N. Hough
Howard '34. We have an organization which
shows consistent high spirit & morale,
we are fighting the enemy on the front, and
we won't be satisfied until we have
driven him out and exterminated his kind.

Again, Best wishes
Bar
156 OS Army